



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: A. Burchell et al.

Examiner: Lisa V. Cooney

Serial No.: 09/972,105

Group Art Unit: 1641

Filed: October 4, 2001

Docket: 350013-76

Title: PRENATAL DIAGNOSTIC METHODS

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Elizabeth Bui

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

This paper is in response to the Office Action dated September 24, 2003. By the Petition for a One Month Extension enclosed herewith, the date for responding is extended to January 24, 2003.

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Previously canceled)
2. (Currently amended) A method of isolating embryonic or fetal red blood cells from a sample containing maternal blood cells and embryonic or fetal red blood cells or both, the method comprising determining which cell or cells contain or express an adult liver